

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 30-55 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 11, 14, 16, and 21 being the independent claims. Claims 1-29 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice or disclaimed. Cancelled claims 1-26 have been recast as new claims 30-55, respectively.

Based on the above Amendments and the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the claims are generally narrative and fail to conform with current U.S. practice. By this amendment, all pending claims have been amended to obviate this rejection. Applicant therefore requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this application.

Should the examiner believe that anything further would place the application in even better condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8/21/03

By: 

James R. Burdett
Registration No. 31,594
Daniel G. Vivarelli, Jr.
Registration No. 51,137
VENABLE
P.O. Box 34385
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998
Telephone: (202) 962-4800
Telefax: (202) 962-8300

DC2/477793v1